

The CHAIRMAN. Did you get Mr. Hale's question?

Dr. GOULD. I am afraid I heard it. It would have been better if I had not, because I have not any answer. I do not know, Mr. Hale.

Mr. HALE. I talked to a representative of the State Department about 3 weeks ago. I pointed out that I thought I could see everything that could be said for the internationalized status. I also envisaged what you talk about, the necessity of a very large capital investment certainly at Cape Bernacchi, and probably elsewhere ultimately, probably several other places on the continent, and who is going to make it if it is just an internationalized area. I would like to get an answer to that.

Dr. GOULD. That gets entirely out of the realm of our scientific responsibility.

Mr. HALE. I appreciate it is not a scientific question, but it is a very important question.

Dr. GOULD. It is important, of course. We have invested billions of dollars elsewhere in the world without the probability of securing such good returns as we should from the scientific program in Antarctica. But it would not be well even for us to have any recommendation, I think, as to what could or should be done there, Mr. Hale.

Mr. HALE. If you had a bill in here, not even an appropriation bill, but if you were to seek an authorization for an airport at Cape Bernacchi, I am sure that the first question that a congressional committee would ask would be: What is the title; what assurance would there be that our investment would be protected? and so on.

Dr. GOULD. Such recommendations, of course, would come to Congress from the Department of Defense, from the agency responsible for logistics; I mean, if we continue the present thinking we have had no responsibility outside of the National Academy of Sciences for the logistics. We prepare the scientific program. They assume the responsibility for the necessary logistics. What their answer would be to that, I would not even hazard a guess.

Mr. FLYNT. It occurs to me, in addition to that, some recommendation would have to come from the State Department giving an announcement of future policy on this question of territorial rights.

Dr. GOULD. It seems to me that that would be fundamental and necessary, Mr. Flynt.

The CHAIRMAN. May I inquire if you have any suggestions with reference to legislation that might be needed to effect the program that you have outlined?

Dr. GOULD. I do not know that any legislation is necessary for the program immediately ahead of us. Am I not correct, Dr. Joyce?

Dr. JOYCE. I believe that the authority of the Department of Interior to operate in that region is necessary if geological work is to be done. It is my understanding that legislation to take care of this is now in process. I know of no details, however, concerning it. Other than that, I think we are in the clear.

Mr. MACDONALD. Why the Department of Interior? Where does their jurisdiction affect the work going on in the Antarctic if no territorial claims have been made, which obviously they have not?

Dr. JOYCE. If I may go off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)